

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ASMARA 00653 010646Z

20

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 311345Z JUL 75

FM AMCONSUL ASMARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3476

INFO AMDMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 4418

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

C O N F I D E N T I A L ASMARA 0653

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS ET

SUBJECT: CISCO TWO

REF: STATE 179440

1. AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 2 OF REFTEL, CONGEN REQUESTED X TO OBTAIN FURTHER DETAILS FROM Y OF HIS KNOWLEDGE OD WHEREABOUTS OF CISCO TWO. AS WE ANTICIPATED, Y HAD FEW DETAILS TO ADD TO ORIGINAL STORZ. SINCE HIS FIRST CONTACT WITH X, Y HAS RECEIVED NO FURTHER INFORMATION FROM SERAE PROVINCE ONABDUCTED AMERICANS BECAUSE ALL NON-COMMERCIAL TRAVEL IN AND OUT OF JSMARA HAS BEEN SUSPENDED FOR OVER ONE WEEK. HE WAS ABLE TO CLARIFY ONE POINT, HOWEVER, THAT TWO AMERICANS AND FOUR ETHIOPIANS WERE PLACED IN CUSTODY OF ABDELKADIR RAMODAN, WHO Y KNOWS FROM EXPERIENCE IS ELF COMMANDER OF GUHCHIA DISTRICT OF SERAE PROVICE, BY ANOTHER ELF UNIT. Y DID NOT KNOW WHETHER TWO WERE TO BE DETAINED IN THAT AREA OR WHETHER THEY WERE IN TRANSIT TO ANOTHER LOCATION. CONGEN HAS BEEN RELIABLY INFORMED THAT IF ELF/PLF HOSTAGES WERE TO BE TAKEN FROM ASMARA TO SUDAN BORDER, FOR EXAMPLE, IT IS MOST LIKELY THEY WOULD BE TRANSFERRED FROM UNIT HAVING GEOGRAPHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES IN ASMARA AREA TO NEIGHBORING UNIT TO WEST, AND SO ON, TO SUDANESE BORDER. THIS PROCEDURE MAY EXPLAIN CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING JULY 17 SIGHTING OF CISCO TWO IN SERAE PROVINCE. CONGEN NOW CONSIDERS THIS LEAD COLD AND NOT LIKELY TO BE PRODUCTIVE.

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2. CONGEN DOES NOT RPT NOT PERCEIVE ANY USEFUL ROLE OF CISCO REP SENT FROM US AT THIS JUNCTURE. CISCO MANAGEMENT HERE IN ASMARA MAY, OF COURSE, RECEIVE COMMUNICATION FROM ABDUCTORS, BUT OTHERWISE CONGEN SEES NO SPECIAL ROLE FOR CISCO.

3. CONGEN OFFICER INTERVIEWED BOTH MRS. HARRELL (JULY 30) AND MRS. CAMPBELL (JULY 31). BOTH APPEARED IN RELATIVELY GOOD SPIRITS, AND THEY WERE RELIEVED TO LEARN OF DAMASCUS ELF STATEMENT AS TO "GOOD HEALTH" OF THEIR HUSBANDS. MRS. HARRELL HAD HEARD THROUGH LOCAL GRAPEVINE THAT THE TWO AMERICANS HAD BEEN ESCORTED BY ELF THROUGH VILLAGE NOT FAR FROM ASMARA MOUNTED ON HORSES AND UNBOUND. THUS LENDING FURTHER EVIDENCE TO SPECULATE ON OUTCOME OF ABDUCTION, OPINED THAT AMERICANS WOULD PROBABLY BE RELEASED IN SUDAN AND WOULD NOT BE RETURNING TO ASMARA. THIS ASSUMPTION HAS CAUSED MRS. CAMPBELL TO INVESTIGATE FEASIBILITY OF HER TRAVELLING TO GERMANY TO VISIT SISTER

(ALSO MARRIED TO AMCIT). IT WAS SUGGESTED THAT SHE DECIDE QUICKLY HER COURSE OF ACTION AND BEGIN PROCESS TO OBTAIN DEPARTURE DOCUMENTS FROM EPMG. BOTH WIVES ASKED THAT WE TRANSMIT THEIR REGARDS TO IN-LAWS IN U.S. SAYING THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO RESPOND PERSONALLY, BUT ARE UNABLE TO WRITE IN ENGLISH.  
SHERRY

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## Message Attributes

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**Type:** TE  
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